

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 IO-12 IGA-02 AID-20 DPW-01

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FM AMEMBSSSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0693

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2962

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJ: FULBRIGHT QUESTIONS ON CAMBODIA

REF: (A) SECSTATE 058263/292206 Z MARIOUE

(B) SECSTATE 055642/282109 Z MAR 73

1. SUGGEST YOU RESPOND TO PARTS A AND B OF SENATOR
FULBRIGHT' S QUERY AS FOLLOWS.

2. QTE (A) AT THE REQUEST OF THE GKR, US AIRCRAFT
CONDUCT OPERATIONS OVER CAMBODIA AGAINST NVA/ VC AND
KHMER INSURGENT FORCES. THROUGH THE MAP, THE UNITED
STATES IS PROVIDING MILITARY SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO THE
FANK. AS OF MARCH 29, 1973 THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 186
US GOVERNMENT CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CAMBODIA
INCLUDING 9 CONTRACT EMPLOYEES. THERZHARE NO US
GROUND COMBAT PERSONNEL AND NO US MILITARY ADVISORS
IN THE COUNTRY.

3. QTE (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE US MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND
ECONOMIC PROGRAMS IS TO HELP THE KHMER REPUBLIC TO
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DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST NVA/ VC AGGRESSION AND THE INSURGENCY VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST FORCES ARE CREATING, SUPPLYING, ENCADREING AND ADVIYCNG. FROM 1970 TO JANUARY 29, 1973 US AIRCRAFT CONDUCTED OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE SAME OBJECTIVE. ON THAT DATE THE GKR DECLARED A CESSATION OF OFFENSIVE ACTIVITIES TO PERMIT THE WITHDRAWAL OF NVA/ VC FORCES AS STIPULATED IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND TO PERMIT CONTACTS AND NEGOTIATIONS AMONG KHMER. THE UNITED STATES IMMEDIATELY STOOD DOWN ITS AIR OPERATIONS. HOWEVER THE NORTH VIETNAMESE DID NOT WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES FROM CAMBODIA; SOME 40,000 VNA/ VC REMAIN. NOR DID THEY STOP USING VLMBDOAI, AS REQUIRED BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT, TO " ENCROACH ON THE SECURITY" OF SOUTH VIETNAM; RATHER, INFILTRATIONS OF MEN AND MATEIAL ACROSS CAMBLDIAN TERRITORY CONTINUED. MOST IMPORTANT, THE OCNORTH VIETNAMESE AND THE KHMER INSURGENT FORCES WHOSE OVERALL MILITARY ACTIVITY THEY CONTROL LAUNCHED AMENERAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST GKR POSITIONS. DURING AND AFTER THE NEGOTIATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT THE DRV HAD ALWAYS RESISTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR PEACE- MAKING IN CAMBODIA. RATHER THAN RESPOND TO THE GKR' S OFFER OF A CEASEFIRE, THE NORTH VIETNAMES AND THEIR KHMER ASSOCIATES CHOSE TO CONTINUE AND INDEED STEP- UP THE INDOCHINA WAR IN ITS ONE REMAINING THEATRE. ON FEBRUARY 9 US AIR OPERATIONS IN CAMBODIA WERE RESUMED AT GKR REQUEST. THESE OPERATIONW ARE DEFENSIVE IN CHARACTER; THEY ARE EXECUTED BY IN RESPONSE TO THE ENEMY OFFENSIVE THEY ARE INTENDED TO HELP RESTORE AND MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO AS OF JANUARY 29, 1973 AND THUS TO CREATE CONDITIONS IN WHICH A CEASEFURE AND THE END OF FOREIGN MILITARY ACTIVITIES, AS STIPULATED BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT, CAN BE ACHIEVED; THEY WILL CEASE WHEN AND AS ENEMY OFFINSIVE ACTIONS STOP.

4. QTE THE UNITED STATES UPPORTS THE KHMER REPUBLIC AS THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF A COUNTRY UNDER ATTACK AND PARTIALLY OCCUPIED BY AN OUTSIDE AGGRESSOR. THERE ARE NO RPT NO COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUAL LEADERS UNQTE. SWANK

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